



# Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia Newsheet July 2017

ABN 3007 129 1677

Patron: RADM N. Ralph AO,  
DSC, RAN Ret'd

See our website [here](#)

## New 'InfoEmail' Format A Success

Thanks to everybody who gave me feedback on the new format: I received over 40 responses, all except three of which were very positive. The three had some technical problems which hopefully can be resolved. Anyway, the PDF format is here to stay!

You'll see that this edition is formatted more in the style of a newspaper, which is what it is, I suppose. I hasten to add that it is not intended to replace 'Slipstream', which remains the flagship of our communications. 'InfoEmails' only go to [consenting] recipients with email addresses, and it only gives a quick snapshot of news, rather than the detailed material contained in SS. It does fill a niche gap, however. It can be cobbled together quickly if need be, and has considerable reach.

I think that this, together with Slipstream, our Facebook page and Website, are now really getting traction in making our community feel connected.

### NAMING CONTEST

InfoEmails are here to stay but this newsheet, which will be distributed periodically in one of them, needs its own moniker. 'Monocle' has been suggested, which used to be a Flight Safety periodical in the distant past, but that's a bit myopic. Any ideas gratefully received.

## Email Address Changes

Every month, I strike a few people off the distribution list because their email 'bounces'. Please remember to tell me if you have, or are about to, change your address so I can amend your details. You can send me an email by clicking [here](#).

**Erratum.** Keen eyed observers would have seen the caption on the Seahawk photo in June's InfoEmail was incorrect. The caption should have read 'Minister Kim Beazley, CAPT Andy Craig and CDFS (General Peter Gratton) visit the Sikorsky plant in 1987.'

## ADF Pay Case Offer

The current ADF Workplace Arrangement expires on 01 November this year, and the proposal on the table is for another 3-year arrangement, with a salary increase of 2% for each year (i.e. a total of 6%). If you are in the ADF and wish to comment on this offer you can do so through the DFWA, which will be making representation to the Tribunal in mid August this year (that will be me). Click [here](#) to connect.



A reminder of the reunions coming up:

### SEQ Birdies Reunion

**When:** Friday 27 October from 1300 (drop in)

**Where:** The Victory Hotel, 127 Edward St, Brisbane Bar:

**Cost:** No cover charge – just pay your own way.

Contact: Wayne Avery ex-CPOATV Ph: 0478-677-722  
email: [waavery@gmail.com](mailto:waavery@gmail.com)

This event has been building over a number of years, but its format remains a casual one where you drop in when you can. Attendees are from all over Australia, to reconnect face-to-face (not social media) friendships from days past. So come along and spin a story or two and enjoy quality fellowship. *Note: If you go to our website you'll see a special offer from OAKS HOTELS, who will give you a discount on accommodation if you choose to stay with them. Click [here](#) to see more.*

### RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam Reunion

**When:** 15-17 October 2017

**Where:** HMAS Albatross, NSW

**Cost:** Varies, according to which events you attend

Contact: John Macartney (02) 6557 4165

This event has been publicised for some time but there are still some ex-RANHFV members and friends who have not yet registered for it. Go to our website [here](#), if you are interested in attending. It also has details of the program and accommodation options.

## Staying Connected

It's important that the present and past FAA stay connected in every way they can. This newsletter goes to all FAAAA members with email addresses, and to any other ex-FAA people who have asked for it. This is arguably now the largest contact database of this kind in Oz. If you know anybody who wishes to be included on the distribution please ask them to contact me [here](#). Also please start using it if you have news or views to share.

## Centenary Posters

I'm now down to the last few Centenary Posters and, unless there's a really good reason, I don't intend to print a new batch. They are a great memento and, in time, will become a collector's piece. You can still order them at a very modest price, but it will be on a 'first come first served basis'. Click [here](#) for the order form.



Since the last 'InfoEmail' we are aware of the loss of **Ted Wynberg, Henry Hall, Graham Husband, Tom Fish, Steve Tester and Daryall Lynham**. You can read of these sad events in the Obituary columns of our website [here](#). Our thoughts and sympathies are with their families.

## Did You Know?

If you are able to log in to our website (you need to be a FAAA member and have a [registered](#) username & pass-word), you can add comments to [Obituaries](#) on our web-site. It's a way of leaving a little memory of a lost mate – maybe a message or an anecdote, or just a little personal farewell. Simply locate their page by typing their name in the search box of the website, and then use the 'Leave Comment' facility. The webmaster vets all input.

## Our Roll of Honour

Over the years there have been (and still are) many RAN FAA Rolls of Honour (RoH), each with different criteria. Some included, for example, names of members killed in road accidents. Others included passengers killed in RAN aircraft. This diversity was caused by different people using different criteria.

CDRE Toz Dadswell and Mr. Greg Wise therefore laid the foundation for an official Naval Aviation RoH, which was endorsed by our Federal Council and the Chief of Navy in 2009. The criterion was that it should

only include the names of RAN or other Service personnel who lost their lives as a result of naval aircraft operations.

Up to now we have not had a designated custodian of this Roll to ensure changes are not made without proper consideration of the criteria. We have asked the Sea Power Centre to agree that the Director of the FAA Museum will perform this function, however, and we are awaiting their advice.

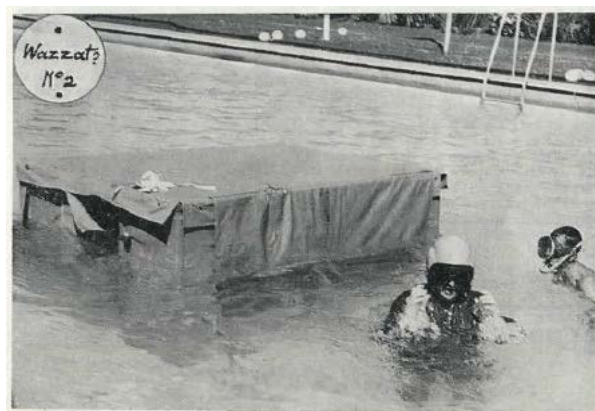
The [Naval Aviation Roll of Honour](#) is now on our website, to honour all those who gave their lives to Australian Naval Aviation. Links are included, where available, to provide a little more information on the names therein. There's lots still to be done so if anybody wants to help, you'd be welcome!

## Our Heritage

Over the past two years a number of 'Our Heritage' articles have been constructed for the website, including on the Skyhawk, Gannet, Wessex, Venom, Seagull etc. These articles give a very comprehensive account of each type, including details of every airframe with the stories attached, where available. You can check out the Heritage Series [here](#). Work is now in progress on articles for the Seahawk S70B and the Squirrel, which I hope to publish by the end of the year. Many others (Seafury, Firefly etc.) are yet to be done, so if you have a particular interest in those aircraft please don't be backward in coming forward!

The early history of the FAA is convoluted. Many people think that we came into existence in 1948, for example, but in fact it was in the previous year. By then aircraft had been operating off RAN ships for nearly thirty years. Capturing this part of our history has been a work in progress, but I hope to be able to publish a comprehensive Heritage article on it (courtesy of Kim Dunstan) before the next newsletter.

## Fifty Five Years Ago



Fifty five years ago, this picture appeared in 'Slipstream'. What is it, and what are the people in it doing? The answer will be provided in the next edition.

## Get Well

At the time of preparing this newsletter I hear that our Patron, RADM Neil Ralph, is in hospital with a post-operative infection. We wish him a speedy recovery.

## Final Quote

"All the calculations show it can't work. There's only one thing to do: make it work."

— Pierre Georges Latécoère, early French aviation entrepreneur.

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## Photographic Corner



A Royal Australian Navy bearer party from HMAS Albatross carries the casket of the late Lieutenant Commander Henry 'Nobby' Hall, MBE, OAM, MID, RAN (RTD) from the HMAS Albatross Chapel on completion of the funeral service. Photo by LSIS Justin Brown (ADF image)



Two United States Marine Corps MV-22 Ospreys prepare to land at Mount Bunday Training Area, Northern Territory, during Exercise Talisman Saber 17 Field Training Exercise - North. Photo by LSIS Jak Badior (ADF image)



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